## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /126 W

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R 221032Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7429

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR ELECTRONICALLY

ALSO FOR USEEC, USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, BE, LU

SUBJECT: RECLASSIFICATION OF POULTRY PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 149951

1. AGATTACHE REP CONVEYED SUBSTANCE REFTEL TO BELGIAN AND LUXEMBOURG POULTRY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPS AND THEIR MINAG SUPERIORS. BOTH BELGIAN AND LUXEMBOURG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPS INDICATED PROPOSED RECLASSIFICATION WAS IN RESPONSE TO RECENT LARGE INCREASE IN EC IMPORTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES OF (PREPARED/SEASONED) UNCOOKED POULTRY UNDER 16.02B, AND THAT THIS INCREASE COULD REFLECT ATTEMPTS, BY SLIGHTLY TREATING POULTRY MEAT, TO AVOID HIGHER VARIABLE LEVY ASSESSED ON THIRD COUNTRY IMPORTS OF UNPREPARED, UNCOOKED POULTRY MEAT ENTERING UNDER CXT

02 HEADINGS. BELGIAN OFFICIAL INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT EC EARLIER TOOK SIMILAR ACTION ON BEEF FOR SAME REASON. BELGIAN OFFICIALS ALSO FELT THERE COULD PERHAPS BE SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN PROPOSED POULTRY MEAT RECLASSIFICATION AND CONCERN APPARENTLY BEING VOICED IN EC THAT U.S. HAS BEEN EXPANDING POULTRY MEAT EXPORTS TO MIDDLE EAST CONTRARY TO UNDERSTANDING IN U.S.-EC "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT."

2. BLEU IMPORTS OF PDEPARED, UNCOOKED POULTRY MEAT UNDER 16.02B HAVE GROWN SHARPLY FROM 1,471 MT IN CY 1973 TO 4,700 MT IN CY 1977. EC COUNTRIES, MAINLY FRANCE AND NETHERLANDS, ARE VIRTUALLY THE SOLE SUPPLIERS, BUT BLEU TRADE DATA, OF COURSE, DO NOT INDICATE WHETHER IMPORTS FROM OTHER EC COUNTRIES ARE ACTUALLY OF EC ORIGIN. CHAMBERS

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